Appl. No. 10/085,298 Amendment dated January 18, 2006 Response to Office Action of November 2, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. 7. (Cancelled)
- 8. (Currently Amended) A system for selectively allowing use of embedded <u>software</u> comprising:
 - a microcontroller;
- a first non-volatile storage device coupled to the microcontroller, the first non-volatile storage device storing a plurality of programs executable by the microcontroller, the plurality of programs comprising at least a program to perform flow calculations, a program to perform PLC functions, and a program to perform RTU functions;
- a second non-volatile storage device coupled to the microcontroller-by-way of an interface-bus, the second non-volatile storage device storing software license information; and

wherein the microcontroller refrains from executing at least one of the plurality of programs on the first non-volatile storage device if the software license information on the second non-volatile storage device does not contain an entry allowing use.

- 9. (Original) The system as defined in claim 8 wherein the second non-volatile storage device further comprises a read only memory (ROM) device.
- 10. (Original) The system as defined in claim 9 wherein the interface bus further comprises a serial interface bus.

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- 11. (Original) The system as defined in claim 10 wherein the ROM device further comprises a serial electrically erasable programmable read only memory (serial EEPROM).
- 12. (Original) The system as defined in claim 10 wherein the serial interface bus further comprises a Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI) bus.
- 13. (Original) The system as defined in claim 12 wherein the serial EEPROM further comprises a part number 25LC040-I device manufactured by Microchip Technology Incorporated.
- 14. (Original) The system as defined in claim 10 wherein the serial interface bus further comprises an Inter-Integrated Circuit (I²C) bus.
- 15. (Original) The system as defined in claim 8 wherein the second ROM device further comprises a flash ROM device.

16.-61. (Cancelled)

62. (New) The system as defined in claim 8 wherein the microcontroller limits the number of instances of the flow program to perform flow calculations, the limit based on license information on the second non-velatile storage device.